Change in investment norms of EPFO

272. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a request from Employees Provident Fund Organisation to change investment norms of the fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Dave Committee has made any recommendations in its report in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) Government's reaction on recent request of EPFO ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) The Central Board of Trustees (Employees's Provident Fund) has recommended greater flexibility in investment of funds between Central Government Securities, State Government Securities and Public Sector Bonds, etc.

Dave Committee in its report examined and recommended the matter of Old Age Social and Income Security for the workers. The committee, *inter-alia,* suggested a new regulatory agency namely the Indian Pension Authority (IPA). One of the primary roles of EPA suggested in the report is prescription of the investment guidelines and accounting standards for Pension Fund Managers.

Requirement of Fund for Good Governance

†273. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH'LALAN'

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI.

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the facts published in the survey *viz.* "State of India's public Services" conducted by the Public Affairs Centre of Bangalore.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that as per the said survey more funds are not essential for good governance; and

(c) if not, Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Study of" State of India's Public Services" conducted by Public Affairs Centre, Bangalore covers the following subjects :—

(i) Drinking Water;

(ii) Health and Sanitation

(iii) Education and Child Care

(iv) Public Distribution System (Fair Price Shops)

(v) Road transport

The study and the conclusions drawn therein are based on a survey which covered over 33,000 households in 115 Districts spread over 24 States (including rural and urban areas). The study in its Executive Summary, *inter alia,* mentions that high income levels and infrastructure spending by themselves do not ensure a high quality of governance and that the Government of India and the State Governments seem to have done more in extending people's access to basic services than to improving the effectiveness and quality of service.

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances in Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in consultation with Central Government Ministries/Departments, State Governments/UT Administrations, Organisations and individuals, acts as a facilitator to improve Government functioning through various administrative reforms measures in regard to process improvement, organisation and methods, grievances handling

and by promoting modernization, Citizen's Charters, e-governances and documentation and dissemination of best practices. The various initiatives in these areas taken by the Department aim at improving the accessibility as well as effectiveness and quality of the services, provided by the Government.

CBI raids on Government officials

274. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has conducted nation wide raids on Government officials and recovered cash investments and properties worth crores of rupees as reported in all the newspapers dated 12th June, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of persons on whom raids were conducted and the unearthed disproportionate assets etc; and

(c) the further action Government propose to take against the involved Government officials who have earned disproportionate assets to their known sources of income ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Central Bureau of Investigation had conducted a nation wide raids on 11-6-2002 on Government officials and others through a Special drive. As a result of the Special drive 24 cases were registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation against Government officials working in different organizations. The Central Bureau of Investigation also unearthed disproportionate assets from these officials ranging from few lakhs of Rupees toRs. 1.5 crores.

(c) Further action against the Government officials involved in these cases has been initiated as per rules.